

LIKE MARY WE ARE CALLED TO BE PROPHETS

In preparation for the birth of Jesus tomorrow, today we celebrate the Annunciation, the announcement to Mary that she is being invited to become the mother of the Saviour. Moreover, we hear the story in the Gospel of Luke who portrays Mary as a true believer and first disciple of Jesus. While Mary is not a disciple like the Twelve who accompany Jesus in his ministry, she is presented as the true disciple who hears the Word of God and acts upon it.

Birth announcements play a significant role in the Hebrew Scriptures turning supposed barren wombs into surprising conceptions: Ishmael is born to Hagar; Isaac to Abraham and Sarah; John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth ["She who was thought to be barren is now in her sixth month!"]. Israel's God is ever full of surprises!

The telling of the Annunciation story is also significant because it follows the pattern of the calling of the Jewish prophets (e.g., Moses and Jeremiah): there is a heavenly messenger or angel; the 'prophet' expresses fear but is told to not be afraid; God's intention is announced; objections are given; finally, a sign of divine power is presented.

Mary's objection to the idea of bearing a son is grounded in biological reality: "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel's answer is that the Holy Spirit will overshadow her and enable this 'miracle' to occur in the same manner the Spirit hovered over the waters at the origin of creation. This same Spirit was again present at the baptism and transfiguration of Jesus.

Mary's final response – "I am the handmaid of the Lord; let what you have said be done to me" – is not an expression of passive servitude. Mary's fiat ('let it be done') demonstrates a conscious and active faith; and it shows an almost outrageous authority as she first questions the angel before making a decision that implies enormous risk and danger. After all, if the law of Deuteronomy was applied, as an unwed mother Mary could be stoned to death!

The birth of the Lord in human flesh coming into the world to deliver us from power and greed relies on this poor, peasant Jewish woman saying yes to God's invitation. Certainly, Mary's call is unique insofar as she alone is invited to conceive and deliver Jesus. Yet, like Mary, we are all called to give Jesus Christ in our own lives.

God's gracious care and desire to repair our lives and planet earth is occurring today. Do we have Mary's faith, hope and courage to say "Yes" to the divine invitation to be missionary disciples of Jesus in the way of Mary. Like Mary, we are all called to be prophets, people who denounce the world's injustices, and cry out to God to bring peace and reconciliation to all peoples. As we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ may we, like Mary, learn to hear the Word of God and put it into practice.

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Gosnells Catholic Parish

Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Church
Archdiocese of Perth
Western Australia



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Perreau
philip.perreau@perthcatholic.org.au

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Alternate Entry by: 1 Isdell Place, Gosnells
Postal Address: PO Box 297,
Gosnells WA 6990
Telephone: 9398 2331
Email: gosnells@perthcatholic.org.au
Website: www.gosnellsparish.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am - 1.30pm

Entry by: 1 Isdell Place, Gosnells

Parish Secretary:

Naomi Newman: 9398 2331
Email: secretary@gosnellsparish.org.au

Catechist Coordinator

Gen De Souza: 0408 717 809

Safeguarding Officers

Email: safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au
0432 398 973

SVDP Local Contact

Loretta Watson: 0451 794 790

Gosnells Youth

Veronica Ayeni: 0424 812 632
Email: gosnellsyouth@gmail.com

24th December, 2023

4th Sunday of Advent

Year B

Violet

Today's Readings

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

31st December, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Year B

White

Next Sunday's Readings

Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Hebrew 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Luke 2:22-40

St Munchin's Catholic Primary School



Principal: Mr Kevin Duffy
1 Isdell Place, Gosnells
PO Box 172, Gosnells WA 6990
9234 7555
admin@stmunchins.wa.edu.au

Follow Truth

Sunday Bulletin

Parish Liturgies	
Weekend Mass	Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 7.30am, Sunday 9.30am
Weekday Mass	Monday 8.00am Communion Service (Mass on Solemnity only) Tuesday 6.00pm Mass - (1st Tuesday Mass of Anointing) Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 8.00am Mass Friday 9.00am Mass
Reconciliation	Saturday 5.00pm - 5.45pm or by appointment
Buckley Caring Centre	10.00am Mass - Second Thursday of the Month
Juniper Aged Care	11.00am Mass - Third Friday of the Month
Rosary	After weekday Masses
Exposition	Tuesday 5.00pm - 6.00pm with Benediction, Sunday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
Charismatic Prayer	Thursday 7.15pm - 9.00pm.
Baptism	Sunday at 11.00am, or by arrangement
Marriage	By appointment - Minimum SIX MONTHS notice for preparation etc

Praying For You

Recently Deceased
Charlie McMahon, Maureen O'Mullen

Death Anniversary
Germano D'Alonzo, Joyce McMahon,
Mr & Mrs B A Nathan, Mr & Mrs Louis Nathan

Deceased
Llewelyn Beale, Donald Peche, Emily Peche,

Our Sick
Bethwyn Johnson, Owen D'Souza, Fran Vallis,
Pat Simm, Ammini Jose, John Breag,
Conrad Briggs, Joel Celine, Dennis Ford,
Letecia Niembra, Wendy Kraft, Cecilia Lee,
Dolly, Elvira Panici-Allen, Annabelle McNess,
Richard Bisnath, Wendy Price, Fran Wiffen.




The Jesse Tree

The Jesse tree helps us connect the custom of decorating our Christmas trees to the events leading to the birth of Jesus.

The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1:
"A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophesies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.



Feast Days this Week		
Dec 25	Mon	Christmas Day
26	Tues	St Stephen, the first Martyr
27	Wed	St John, the Evangelist
28	Thur	The Holy Innocents
29	Fri	St Thomas Becket


Rosters for 23/24 December, 2023						
Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Rosa Ford Theresa Spicer	Clarence Pereira	Gemima Pinto	Volunteer	Christy Ravanez Bridget Soh	Joshua Manda, Kyle Marquis, Clinton Matthews, Jacob Raymond
Sunday 7.30am	Bette Lyra Vilma Lyra	Chloe Pereira-Smith	Ann Ralston	Aruna Ratnasekera	Russell Lally Rod McAtee	Diobett Bangayan, Richardson Saw, Aydriel Ratnasekera, Rosemary Saw
Sunday 9.30am	Jude Ayeni Debora Ayeni	Lenny Rodaje	Silvana Sciorilli	Dan Hewitt	Francisco Aung Michael Ayeni	Florian Christstar, Leslie Dacruz, Angel Garavillas, John Gilmore, Gabino Htoo, Austin Jacob
Tellers this week: Chloe Pereira-Smith, Prisca Pereira, Robert Szlezak			Tellers next week: Geoff & Jenny Mills, Cheryl Martin			

Rosters for 30/31 December, 2023						
Mass	Greeters	Reader	Commentator	Acolyte	Extraordinary Ministers	Altar Servers
Saturday 6.00pm	Sandra Wren Mercy Burton	Ayden Ratnasekera	Natasha Pinto	Martin Loh	Ludette Van Der Spil Mark van Ingen	Melanie Beacher, Teron Bouzin, Athena Calupig, Carl Agus
Sunday 7.30am	Inoka Ratnasekera Sandra Reid	Inoka Ratnasekera	Jack Roach	Clint Barnes	Chloe Pereira-Smith Inoka Ratnasekera	Callie Abogado, Jake Antu, Scott Tido, Caleb Watkins
Sunday 9.30am	Veronica Ayeni Anne Brink	Robert Szlezak	Yuriy Volikov	Lenny Dacruz	Anne Brink Jim Brink	James Jacob, Liam James, Kripa Jojo, Olivia Justin, Aung Kintha, Gei Long Ya Kintha

WE CARE

SVDP Emergency Relief Phone 1300 794 054

Marycare Maureen L 0414 937 440 Anne 9490 3377 Maureen B 0411 691





Jesus is the Reason for the Season Our Christmas Celebrations

Sunday, 24th December

Please join with the choir for Carol singing from 5.15pm Carols followed by 6.00pm Family Vigil Mass
Children are invited to come dressed as shepherds, angels or kings.

11.15pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass



Monday, 25th December

8.30am Christmas Morning Mass



Let's invite our family, friends and neighbours to our Christmas celebration and share our joy with them.

The overflow carpark for Christmas Masses will be on the St Munchin's School oval, accessed via the Corfield St carpark.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Winners will be drawn after 9.30am Mass, Sunday, 24th December. All proceeds to aid parish funds.



2024 Columban Calendar

Support your Vinnies by purchasing a 2024 Columban Calendar at only \$10 each. Calendars are available in the Church foyer. Please place your contribution in an envelope before placing in the SVDP poor box in the church next to the sliding doors.



St Vincent de Paul - Our Vinnies

The Vinnies would like to extend a big THANK YOU to all those who provided the presents and hampers for the Christmas Tree. These have now been distributed within our community. We also wish all parishioners a very Joyous Christmas and thank you for your wonderful support throughout 2023.



Marycare

The Co-ordinators and volunteers of Marycare, extend best wishes to all parishioners for this Holy Christmas Season and for the new year.

We thank you for all your support during the year.

A volunteer recently shared the following: *"Just being able to bring a little bit of joy to someone's life, a little bit of support and help that's momentary, like taking someone to an appointment or taking someone to the shops. It doesn't take a lot out of your life but it's giving them some much needed help. It makes them feel less stressed. You know that you're just doing them a little favour."*

Morning Tea Helpers are Needed

The new roster for Morning Tea will be drawn up soon for 2024.

New volunteers are especially invited to join this ministry and add their names to the list in the foyer.

Golden Age Club

Merry Christmas to all and have a safe and Happy New Year.

We will be in recess until club days resume Tuesday, January 16th 2024.



Parish Safeguarding Officers

The Perth Catholic Archdiocese is committed to the safety and security of all children and young people. If you have any safety concerns about a person in the parish or about a child protection or child safety issue, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officers. Phone 0432 398 973 or email safeguarding@gosnellsparish.org.au

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CALL IN FOR A VISIT

Parish Office Closure

The Parish office will be closed from 26th December to 9th January 2024.

A heart felt thank-you to all our parishioners that donate their time by volunteering for our Parish ministries, out-reach programs through Marycare and St Vincent de Paul, our Parish Committees and to all that have contributed to our Parish in any way. May your Christmas be filled with the love and light of the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

May the new year be filled with many blessings.

Sincerely,

Naomi, Parish Secretary



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Perth Vocations Office

Perth Vocations Office supports anyone seeking a mature relationship with Christ. Have you heard about the Archdiocese of Perth's Vocations Office? The Office - under the spiritual guidance of Fr Israel Quirit, Vocations Director - supports anyone seeking a mature relationship with Christ, particularly those who are suitable for the priesthood/ordained ministry or religious life, and to be able to make their contribution to the wider community.

The Office does this by conducting open events such as a Vocations Morning tea (image above) to listen to stories and ask questions about your Vocations, information booths at youth ministry events, conducting presentations and providing resources such as prayer books.

The Office invites our parish members to follow their social channels – Facebook and Instagram – to get the latest news on events we can all attend, and to get support on listening for and answering God's unique call. Please go to <https://vocations.perthcatholic.org.au/> to follow their socials and for more information.



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Emeritus Archbishop Hickey's Memoirs

Emeritus Archbishop Hickey has completed his memoirs titled 'My Spirit Land'. It is a fascinating and insightful read, documenting not only the last 80+ years of the Catholic Church in WA, priests, cardinals, popes and Catholic agencies and policies, but also the journey of one of our Archbishops who was called to the priesthood in Western Australia. The book is available online at www.myspiritlandmemoir.com for \$44.95 plus \$15 postage and handling or collect at Our Lady of the Mission Church, Craigie for \$44.95 on Wednesday - Friday, 9am - 4pm. Please email myspiritlandmemoirs@gmail.com for enquiries.

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Business Station Inc: The Agonis Building -
Unit 32/232B Albany Highway GOSNELLS WA 6110
Email: info@pedullaandassociates.com.au
Website: www.pedullaandassociates.com.au

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Ph: 9490 3818

WA Young Salesians SUMMER Camp
8-12 January 2024
Registrations NOW OPEN!!
Visit: www.wayoungsalesians.com

Begin the New Year 2024 on 31 December at the Schoenstatt Shrine Mt Richon

11.00 pm Adoration
11.45 pm Christmas carols
12.00 am Bells ring in the New Year
Holy Mass
Fellowship

Welcome to the Shrine!

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Leanne O'DEA
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For information or assistance call
David Bianchini
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9461 7133
bowraodea.com.au

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WA Young Salesian - Summer Camp 8th-12th January 2024

Are you between 11½ -15yrs or starting Year 7 in 2024?

Come and join us for this 5 day fun filled camp at Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup. From only \$270 (less than \$54 a day). Contact Fr Philip, visit the website or contact Graham Maher on 0418 979 600 for more information.

Register now at: www.wayoungsalesians.com



On The Bulletin Board

Various employment opportunities from the Archdiocese of Perth.
Garden of Eden, Young Catholics Ball, 17th February 2024.
Please have a look on our bulletin board for more information.

Our Parish Columbarium

A sacred place for all parishioners and former parishioners and their families.
Brochures are available in the foyer.